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Jennifer McClean

626-793-6685

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10/033,308

Attorney Docket No. 13716
2058-181

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: REDDY, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1639

Serial No.: 10/033,308

Examiner: Epperson, Jon D.

Filing Date: October 24, 2001

JUN 30 2004

For: **IMMOBILIZING BIOLOGICAL
MOLECULES**

OFFICIAL

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Response and Amendment is filed in reply to the Office Action mailed March 31, 2004.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMITTAL BY FACSIMILE: I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile via (703) 872-9306 to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Printed Name: Elaine Porter

Elaine Porter

June 30, 2004

Signature

Date

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attaching the biological molecule to the solid support"; and

(ii) Stolowitz teaches away from the proposed combination. Stolowitz et al. teaches derivatized silica and porous glass beads for chromatographic separation (not covalent attachment) of biological molecules, such as hormones, therapeutic drugs, or drugs of abuse. (e.g., Stolowitz et al., page 4, lines 1-9, describes that the invention "eliminates the irreversible adsorption of biological macromolecules and low molecular weight amines").

Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established. Applicants request withdrawal of the § 103 rejection over Stolowitz et al. and Milton and Okamoto et al. and Guo et al. and Ekins et al. and allowance of all pending Claims.

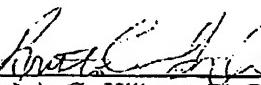
CONCLUSION

The Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly requested. If the present amendments and remarks do not place the Application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned directly if there are any issues that can be resolved by telephone with the Applicant's representative.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge \$194 for the excess claim fees. No other fees are believed due by this Response. If, however, any other fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any other fees associated with this Response and Amendment to Deposit Account No. 19-2090.

Respectfully Submitted,
SHELDON & MAK PC

Date: June 30, 2004

By: 
Kristin C. Hiibner, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 50,139

SHELDON & MAK PC
225 South Lake Avenue, 9th Floor
Pasadena, California 91101-3005

Telephone (626) 796-4000
Facsimile (626) 795-6321